

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-64. (Canceled)

65. (Currently Amended) The process of claim ~~94-99~~ wherein forming the mixture comprises mixing the pieces with water.

66. (Currently Amended) The process of claim ~~94-99 further comprising wherein~~ forming the unitary biodegradable solid comprises forming the mixture into a predetermined shape.

67. (Canceled)

68. (Currently Amended) The process of claim ~~94-99~~ wherein the drying further comprises heating the mixture.

69. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 68 further comprising removing liquid water from the mixture.

70. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 69 wherein the liquid water is re-used in a subsequent process for producing a unitary biodegradable solid.

71. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 68 further comprising capturing water vapor emitted while drying the mixture.

72. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 71 further comprising converting the captured water vapor to liquid water.

73. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 72 wherein the liquid water is re-used in a subsequent process for producing a unitary biodegradable solid.

74. (Currently Amended) The process of claim ~~94-69~~ wherein the water or biodegradable binder in the mixture is obtained from the raw-organic waste.

75. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 74 wherein the biodegradable binder is a carbohydrate.

76. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 75 wherein the biodegradable binder is activated by heating.

77. (Currently Amended) The process of claim ~~65-99~~ wherein the biodegradable binder is a carbohydrate.

78. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 77 wherein the biodegradable binder is activated by the heating.

79-94. (Canceled)

95. (Currently Amended) The process of claim ~~94-99~~ wherein the drying comprises drying the mixture to a moisture content at which it is free of odors caused by microbial activity.

96-98. (Canceled)

99. (New) A process for producing a biodegradable solid of organic waste comprising:

providing a receiving module removably mounted to a processing module;
collecting organic waste by placing the organic waste in the receiving module
when it is removed from the processing module;

reducing the organic waste to pieces before it is dried by operating a reducing element located in the receiving module while the receiving module is mounted to the processing module;

transferring the pieces from the receiving module to the processing module while the receiving module is mounted to the processing module;

mixing the pieces with a biodegradable binder to form a mixture; and

forming a unitary biodegradable solid from the mixture by drying the mixture wherein the reduced organic waste pieces are converted to a unitary biodegradable solid.

100. (New) The process of claim 99 wherein the transferring further comprises the pieces traveling from the receiving module through at least one passageway to the processing module.

101. (New) The process of claim 100 wherein the transferring further comprises the pieces traveling to a form in the processing module.